



Fire Chief Steve Earley
3085 St. Lawrence Ave
Riverside CA 92504
951-826-5321
www.riversideca.gov/fire



Oct 2009

California Firefighters Memorial

California Firefighters Memorial – Six board members and six honor guard members attended the California Firefighters Memorial on Oct 17 in Sacramento. Captain Jay served as the State Honor Guard Commander for the Ceremony. Former RFD members Lupe Olivas, Rick Kosar, and John Pavlicek were added to the memorial this year as Line of Duty Deaths. The CSFA Medal of Valor Awards Dinner was held on Oct 16. Firefighter Jeff Lewis received an award at the ceremony for his rescue efforts earlier in the year.



Group photo at Memorial ceremony

From L to R: Dirk Jensen (Escort for the Kosar family) John Martinez (Escort for the Olivas family) Lori Illsley (Kosar's Sister) Strack, Bob and Lynn Kosar, Terri Schilling (Pavlicek's daughter) Sue Pavlicek (widow) Kim Pavlicek (daughter), Lupe Olivas, Miranda and Andrea Olivas (Lupe's Daughters) Wilde, (flag presenter for the Kosar's) Mark Thompson(flag presenter for the Pavliceks) Tony Perna (escort for the Pavliceks) and TJ Honor Guard.





Email from BC Campos to all personnel on Oct 10: I wish to thank everyone who participated in the Open House, I heard many comments of how friendly, professional and informational the firefighters and explorers were. I especially want to thank Anna Hauldren who gave so much of her time to assist in the preparation of the Open House.



Christopher Boykin's son, Josh, visited his dad's work on Open House on Oct 10

Email from Steve Schlom to all personnel on Oct 12: would just like to thank you all for your support and kind words during these past couple of weeks, in regards to my father passing away. It really is a great feeling having such a wonderful second family for the extra support!!! My family and I are doing fine, due to you and many other friends that have been there for us during these hard times. Thank you so much!!!

Email from Eng Darin Muchmore to Eng Tim Odebralski on Oct 26: Tim, I would like to thank you and Explore Post 101. Explore Luna, & LLamas come out to the tower on Sunday October 25th to help out with our apparatus drill. E7 was also out at the tower and had the opportunity to use the Explores. Both Explores showed excellent hustle, and worked very hard. It is nice to see the energy and how both of the Explores represented the Explore Post, and the hard work you and your crews put into training with Explore Post 101.

Thank you letter from Steve Reneker, Executive Director of SmartRiverside on Oct 5:

To Oran Pentz: "On behalf of SmartRiverside, I would like to thank you for your contribution and/or participation in SmartRiverside's Citrus Heritage Run on Saturday, September 26, 2009. Your commitment to helping raise money for the Digital Inclusion Program in our community is sincerely appreciated.

Each year SmartRiverside continues to advance its mission of providing a computer to every disadvantaged household within the City of Riverside. Through the collaboration of both the Project Bridge and Digital Inclusion Programs, we have seen many lives changed and we expect it to only get better!

The goal of SmartRiverside is to continue to make a difference in the lives of those who would be otherwise unable to have the same technological advantages as you and I. With the help of donations from supporters, we will continue to see improvements with our community accessing technology.

Thanks again for your generous support of our efforts to the community."



(cont)



Email from FF Renee Griffin to all RFD personnel on Oct 29: Once again I am so honored to work with such a wonderful group of people. After the last pick up of recycles, we were able to send the Botkins **\$300.00** for the month of **September** AND we already have over **\$150.00** towards the month of **October!** The \$300.00 was given to the Botkins last Friday, with the \$650.00 (from July and August) for a total of **\$950.00!**

Steve with ABCRecycling continues to match every \$100 with \$20 or more for our fundraising. This is why we always have round number amounts. His generosity enables this program to continue. So if you see him around anywhere, please give him a big Thank You.

Every little bit helps. That's what I kept telling so many people donating what they could to "Fill the Boot" as they apologized that it couldn't be more. So remember...EVERY LITTLE BIT HELPS! Walk that can to the recycle bin, bring them in from home and pat yourself on the back that you are doing your part.

Oh, and in case I haven't told you....You are all AWESOME!!!!!!



Thank You Note from Daryl Lee and members of the Inland Chinese Association on Oct 2: "To Honorable Firefighters: Moon Festival is a wonderful family gathering time for traditional Chinese. During this season, we like to thank you all for protecting the community a safe and secure mind and wonderful place as HOME."

Note from Kathy Yeager Allari on Sept 26: "Dear Oran, I wanted to drop you a note and tell you how remarkable our evening at Station #1 was! The eight of us who enjoyed dinner with Captain Bob and the crew were enormously impressed with the cuisine, the friendliness and the professionalism of everyone there. They were excellent community emissaries for the department! I'm sorry you couldn't join in but rest assured, it was a superb evening and we all learned so much about the department. Thank you to everyone who made the evening fabulous!"

Note from Phyllis and Jim Crabtree on Sept 29: "Dear Chief Pentz, Forgive the tardiness of this note. I've had this on my desk to write for nearly two weeks. All of us absolutely loved our evening at the firehouse. Captain Bob and all the crew were so friendly and enthusiastic about their jobs. They made us feel so welcome and we all learned so much. To a person, we all said we felt so safe knowing these fine men were protecting us. It was 'a nice to remember.' We have told so many people about our wonderful evening. Kudos to the cook and to each and every fireman we met. You all are truly Riverside's finest."

Note to DC Pentz from Mel Grossinger, Superintendent of CSFD: "Just a quick note to thank you for taking time out of your busy schedule to show me City from the Fire Department's perspective. I was very impressed with everything I saw that day and am amazed at the depth of your knowledge. When I returned to the Leadership Riverside group, we had to share with the class about our "shadowing" experience. I told them all, that I was certain I had the best experience! I also mentioned how fortunate we are to live in Riverside where our Fire Department is prepared for a disaster should one occur. I'm looking forward to learning more about your department and the opportunity to share information with our about our deaf community."

November Birthdays



Chris Adams	11/20
Rich Bennett	11/30
Tony Burciago	11/27
Jeff DeLaurie	11/2
Steve Earley	11/4
Andy Ferchaw	11/23
Renee Griffin	11/13
Don Henry	11/8
Steve Horton	11/2
Chris Jensen	11/5
Dave Lesh	11/2
Ken Lundgren	11/19
Dave McClellan	11/26
Pat McGeehan	11/19
Brandon Mollicone	11/23
Keith Moore	11/17
Lisa Munoz	11/12
Ron Nunan	11/12
Greg Papo	11/3
Eric Peniata	11/29
Kim Sabatello	11/13
Tim Strack	11/12
John Wescott	11/10
Sean Wilde	11/2

Wedding Bells



Captain Dave Peurifoy married his longtime girlfriend of over 12 years, Roberta, on October 23. They traveled to a small town outside of Greenville, Tennessee. Present were the town judge and Dave's cousin Roxanne and her husband Joe. After a short honeymoon, they plan to live in Riverside. Congratulations to Dave and Roberta. Best of luck and many years of happiness.



Congratulations

18 month probation: The GA editor may not have acknowledged the last few people who completed the 18-month probation, so a big "HOORAH" to the following people who finished since Aug: Jeremy Roberts, Scott, Semer, Tony Giovannetti, Ryan Kaessner, Chris Nunez, and Paul Young.

Retirement: Communication Supervisor John Wright is retiring after 37 years of dedicated service. Please join us on Monday November 9, 2009, 1100 hours at RPD Magnolia Station, to wish John a Happy Retirement!!!!

Certificates of Recognition: Captain Al Hernandez for following-up with ensuring a pool was made safe after a near drowning incident. Al credits his crew for their assistance in pursuing the compliance.

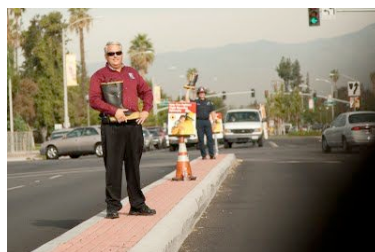
Explorer Post 101: Explorer Post 101 continued to dominate at the Orange County Explorer Games on Oct 24. Our team took 1st, 2nd, and 3rd in the bucket brigade; 1st in Tug-0-War; and 2nd in water ball. Good job!!!



Fill the Boot



The Annual Muscular Dystrophy "Fill the Boot" event took place on Oct 27, 28, and 29. Over \$30,000 was collected. There will be a family member of a MDA patient who will be attending the RCFA General Meeting on Nov 10th to say thanks.



Fire Facts Premiere

The Fire Facts Program debuted at Riverside Christian Day School on Oct 29 with units from the Magnolia Center and Downtown Fire Stations. Eng Greg White emceed the program. Greg has been the catalyst in researching the Fire Facts program and personalizing it to meet the needs of Riverside elementary school children. At the end of each program, students will receive individual interactive cd's donated by Farmers Insurance.



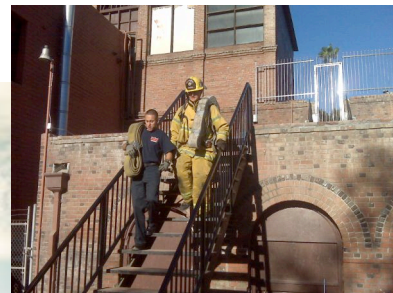
In Memory...



Retired Engineer "Wish" Weishedel passed away peacefully at his home on Oct 24. Engine 3 responded to his house where he lived for over 50 years. Wish started with the RFD in the 1950's and retired in the 1980's as an engineer. Memorial service will take place on Nov 9 at 1100 at the National Cemetery. Chaplain Steve Ballinger will be assisting with the service.

With Sympathy...

Our sympathy goes out to Dave McClellan and his family on the loss of his brother, to Anna Hauldren whose grandmother passed away on Oct 17, and to Trey Janeway who lost his father on Oct 27.



P
H
O
T
O

A
L
B
U
M

L to R: Fire Administration staff Norma Pagan and Dana Roa participated in the "Great Shakeout" drill on Oct 15; Fred Bayer and Greg Papo at the respiratory drill; Fire Explorer and RCC student George Gradilla working out with the Station 1 A-shift crews; Brush 12 crew of Rich Bell, Ken Lundgren, Trevor Keseloff, Paul Seawright; Air drop on E7 crew at Sheep Fire; Arlington Fire Station C shift crew assists a civilian with changing her tire

CSFA Medal of Valor Awards

CSFA Medal of Valor Awards: FF/PM Jeff Lewis and Dr. Thomas Scott of UCR received Medal of Valor Awards in Sacramento prior to the annual memorial. Jeff and Tom were honored for their quick and heroic actions in saving two people at a residential structure fire near UCR. Dr. Scott was on his way to work and saw the smoke. He broke out the window of the bathroom where the two persons were attempting to find safety. FF/PM Lewis entered the structure alone and assisted the civilians out of the bathroom through the window.



Blast to the Past

How many of the people in these two photos can you recognize? Many of them are retired RFD members, but a few are still here. Answer to "Nine at Beach" is on page 8. Thanks to Dru Odil and Dave Campos for providing the photos



Spruce Street Incident

Spruce Street Fire Incident on Oct 3: A vehicle went off the freeway into a structure starting a fire. There was a gas leak and two people trapped in the second story. First units on scene were able to remove the security bars from the second floor window and rescue the two persons.

Answer to "Nine at the Beach": Top back row: 1. Arnie Holder, 2. John Martinez's brother Jim, 3. Lupe Olivas, 4. Bob Lockhart 5. Nancy Woodhead, sister of Sippy Woodhead (Olympic swimmer, father was also city manager, 6. Mario Miranda Bottom row: Mark DeLaOssa Dave Campos, John Martinez



"Stache-Tober"



Note to "her friends at Station 7" from the Kostads on Oct 3: " I finally have relief form the trauma I felt for my daughter – you arrived on July 19 about 7:30am. All of you came in so quickly, professionally, nad honestly caring for the patient. I will never forget the quickness of it all for if it hadn't been for you, my daughter Cindy, would not be with us today. The doctor and nurse told me that the paramedics saved her! That's how crucial our timing was – God must have been with all of us that day – I know the first assumption was overdose of her migraine medicine, but that wasn't the case. Cindy had a brain aneurysm, heart attack, blood infection, and was in a coma for 5 days! Scariest day of my life. Hard to believe that she has made a full and complete recovery.

Our family are law enforcement, son an investigator, husband a retired investigator, and myself a former dispatcher and thinking of that...please relay this letter how ever you can to her, for she was instrumental in telling me what to do before you all arrived.

As a family of civil servants, we often do not get the credit deserved- so it was important I write and thank you so very, very much – which will never be enough. We will never forget."



(cont)



Email from Cathy Williams on Oct 13: Good morning everyone, It's that time again. I have been asked to be the coordinator for the United Way this year. Needless to say, you all know what that means. J \$\$\$ J I will try to be gentle. Our first fundraiser doesn't really help OPS but for us office people it's awesome.

Stickers for Jeans Day!!! Tickets are \$5 each or \$20 for 5. This is approved for **Friday's only** (or Thursdays for those who have a Friday flex day) from now through Dec 31, 2009. While the stickers can be used through December, the funds must be collected and submitted at the end of the campaign on December 4th. **So get your tickets soon.**

You never know when it will be you or your family who will need help and where it will come from. I want to thank you all in advance because I can always count on everyone to help where they can. It makes me very proud to be part of such an outstanding department. Have a great day and let me know how many tickets you want. Thanks again.

RFD Softball Team by Chris Adams: Well it is that time of year that the RFD Softball Team is getting ready to play again. The team over the past couple of years has grown and is getting very competitive. I like to let everyone know what your RFD Softball Team is all about for those who do not know about us. We are going into our ninth year together and have grown from just barely 10 players to now having over 20 players. I have been told in the past (Back in the day's) we had 2 teams and were very competitive and I like to see us back to that level once again while having fun at the same time. We play once a month in a one day tournament of about 4 - 5 games against a lot of local teams (Redlands, Corona, Ontario, San Bernardino County, San Bernardino City and Ranch Cucamonga to name a few) and some further away like La County, LA City, Downey, Chula Vista and many more. We also play in 3 large tournaments which usually are played over 2 to 4 days like Palm Springs, Vegas Games (Proceeds go to the Lost Firefighters Foundation) and California Firefighter Summer Olympics (Proceeds go to the Burn Foundation). All tournaments welcome RFD personnel, family and friends. We play at the Big League Field of Dream in Mira Loma, the facilities have a food, drinks and a play area for the kids. We like to formally invite anyone and everyone to come see us play and cheer your RFD Softball Team on. Our next Tournament is November 17th and a special one day Tournament on December 8th. On this day it is the official Spark of Love Softball Tournament and proceeds go to this great charity and everyone brings a \$10 toy this day also. So we look forward to seeing everyone this year and thank you for your support.

I like to also ask if any RFD Personnel like to come out and play to please email me and let me know. Need to be off Probation and there is a fee of \$25 to play in each Tournament. We usually play on a Tuesday and play from 0830 – 1500. We do practice a couple of times a month and if you are interested I will place you on the contact list to give you updates on when we play or practice. This is for new players only.

One last note since we are growing some of us are getting to that age that hopefully the young generation will continue the RFD Softball team tradition for a longtime. With this said we like to explore a 39 y.o. & Over Softball team to play twice a year at the Vegas Games (May 2010) and California Firefighter Summer Olympics (July 2010 in Santa Clara). Teams in this bracket of the Tournaments play teams like the FDNY, LA City, San Jose, Dallas, Boston, LA County and San Bernardino County Fire Departments. This not just a younger players game, you seasoned veterans can play too. This will only work if we get 10 or more players. More information will come later. Please email me if you like to explore this idea.

Just remember this is a great way for the RFD Family new and old to come together and enjoy a day a weekend or a even a week together with other local Fire Departments, but also Fire Departments from across the United States and Internationally in some friendly at times competitive team sport.

